

**METHODS OF INHIBITING BINDING OF  
β-SHEET FIBRIL TO RAGE AND CONSEQUENCES THEREOF**

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

5 This invention provides a method of inhibiting the binding  
of a β-sheet fibril to RAGE on the surface of a cell which  
comprises contacting the cell with a binding inhibiting  
amount of a compound capable of inhibiting binding of the  
10 the β-sheet fibril to RAGE. In one embodiment the β-sheet  
fibril is amyloid fibril. In one embodiment, the compound  
is sRAGE or a fragment thereof. In another embodiment, the  
compound is an anti-RAGE antibody or portion thereof. This  
invention provides the above method wherein the inhibition  
15 of binding of the β-sheet fibril to RAGE has the  
consequences of decreasing the load of β-sheet fibril in  
the tissue, inhibiting fibril-induced programmed cell  
death, inhibiting fibril-induced cell stress. This  
invention also provides methods of determining whether a  
20 compound inhibits binding of a β-sheet fibril to RAGE on  
the surface of a cell.

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